THE EXAMINER.

No. 216. SUNDAY, FEB. 16, 1812

THE POLITICAL EXAMINER.

Party is the madness of many for the gain of a few. SWIFT.

No. 210.

CONTINUANCE OF THE MINISTERS IN OFFICE.

THE political circles are at present occupied with a passage in Mr. PERCEVAL's speech of Thursday last during the American debate. The expressions are by no means remarkable for their beauty; the images, in which they figure, exhibit no sort of novelty; the speaker, abstractedly considered, is a mediocre kind of man; and yet one single passage, uttered by this person, and relating to his own future concerns, is important enough to interest the attention, and furnish out the discourse, of all the politicians in Great Britain. So easy is it, amidst the abuses of a state, for the most insignificant men to acquire even a portentous presence! So easy for creatures the most fitted for distance and obscurity, to come basking into one's sunshine, and render their smallest movement an object of anxious watchfulness!

An extract from the *Morning Chronicle* of Friday will at once state the circumstance, and exhibit the effect it has had upon those who would most wish to conceal it's effect; —"The very curious passage in a speech of Mr. PERCEVAL last night, will no doubt give rise this day to much discussion. The same motives of respect for the honour, and confidence in the integrity of the PRINCE REGENT, which has made us abstain from entering into all the vague rumours that float in the political atmosphere, make us still unwilling to comment on the equivocal insinuation of the CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER.—But it is fit that his words, as nearly as our memory can ascertain them, should be made universally known. The words were in answer to Mr. CURWEN.—'He (Mr. PERCEVAL) did not know what might be the golden dreams in which the Hon. Gentleman had indulged respecting the continuance of the present Administration, but he believed the prospect was not likely to open in so consolatory a manner to the Hon. Gentleman, as he appeared to imagine.' We can however state with a degree of certainty, that without anticipating in any degree the new political arrangement, the PRINCE REGENT has made no secret of his intention of conferring the Court places of the Household on his personal friends. We accordingly stated yesterday, that in the belief of this determination, the Earl of AYLESFORD had resigned the situation of Lord Steward; for this place Earl CHOLMONDELEY is mentioned. For the vacant place of Lord Chamberlain, the Marquis of HERTFORD, (if he will condescend, with his immense fortune, to accept it) is designed; as the Earl of EGREMONT was for the place of Master of the Horse; but we can assert from good authority, that the Noble Earl has signified his resolution, with every feeling of respect and affection for his Royal Highness, not to accept of any situation of power or emolument. The Duke of NORTHUMBERLAND has also declined any place for Earl PERCY, but it is supposed that his son-in-law, Lord J. MURRAY, will be included in the new Treasury Board. As to the Administration, we sincerely believe, notwithstanding the declaration of Mr. PERCEVAL, that nothing whatever has been settled."

It is clear, not only from the passage thus commented, but from the comments themselves, however doubtfully worded, that what was expected by calm observers some time ago, is likely to take place, and that the Opposition themselves are forced to believe it,—that is to say, that the Ministry is to remain nearly in the same state as at present, and that nothing but the Household places, and perhaps a few subordinate offices under those Ministers, will experience a change in favour of "the PRINCE's friends." How is it else, that while the *Morning Chronicle* is thus enabled to inform us respecting the Household arrangements, it cannot even guess, though so late in the day, respecting those of Administration? How is it else, that while it gives information on the one head, it shews an impatient desire to be relieved from the very task of guessing on the other? How is it else, in short, that it ventures to speak as it does with ill-dissembled bitterness of the PRINCE's intentions?—But the thing has been clear enough from other circumstances;—the air of the debates in Parliament would alone go near to establish it. Those who have hitherto gone by the name of the PRINCE's parliamentary friends evidently have nothing to presume upon circumstances, or they would not abstain from all mention of his Royal Highness's politics,—from all mention of a better anticipation of things,—from all mention of past friendship and future importance. The hint of Mr. CURWEN, which produced this counter-hint from the Minister, may be regarded as an exception; and it may be said, that the Opposition in general would abstain, in delicacy, from anticipating any measures on the part of his Royal Highness;—but Mr. CURWEN's hint seems only to have been made for the purpose of eliciting information; and what is to be inferred from this singular delicacy at the very moment the Restrictions are about to be taken off? Mr. WHITBREAD, in adverting to the expressions of Mr. PERCEVAL, evidently wished to disbelieve them; but it was evident, at the same time, that he had no ascertained grounds upon which to build that disbelief; and consequently he did not attempt to disguise the melancholy he felt at the announcement. "The CHANCELLOR of the EXCHEQUER," said he, "has announced to-night that he is to continue Minister of the country. As far

should be found a veil of secrecy were to be thrown over certain items, he should most undoubtedly like to know whether those items were not included under the head of Secret Service money? The Right Hon. Gentleman had asked whether the House wished to poke into the King's kitchen, or whether they would not be satisfied with the accounts from the *Treasury*. The very reason that he wished for a particular examination was, that these Treasury accounts were *unsatisfactory*. As to what was said about the Royal Palaces, he was not inclined to cramp the Sovereign in this respect, but some bounds ought to be established somewhere; it might happen that some artful builder might get a hold of the Royal ear, and by undue means cause an expence quite unreasonable and unnecessary. He should be the last man to deny every branch of the Royal Family every convenience befitting their rank; but he thought there had been too great an unwillingness to cavil with Royal wishes; and he wished that such an unwillingness had not existed.

After some debate, a Committee was appointed, but without the power to send either for persons, papers, or records.—This Committee, so restricted, Mr. GILES deemed a mere *delusion*, and Mr. TIERNEY and Mr. EDEN said they should not attend it.—Adjourned.

Tuesday, Feb. 11.

FOUR AND A HALF PER CENT. FUND.

Mr. CREVEY said, that the House ought to proceed to a strict examination into this Fund, which arose from an impost, in the Leeward Islands, on the Customs, on Native Commodities, amounting to 4½ per cent. on every five score. Mr. C. contended that the Crown had no right to this fund, as the King had given up all his hereditary revenues, on the settlement of the Civil List.—In 1800, he had moved for an account of the produce of these duties since his Majesty's accession. It had produced 1,600,000*l.*, out of which 400,000*l.* had been applied to the Salaries of Governors. If it had been for the Governors of Barbadoes, it would have been very well, but it had been also distributed among the Governors of Jersey, Guernsey, and, in short, all the Governors of the different Islands. Then came the Special Service Money, which amounted to 326,000*l.* during the present reign. There was 48,000*l.* to one Secretary of the Treasury, and 7000*l.* to another; and there was a sum of 170,000*l.* taken from this Fund for his Majesty's Civil List. It was extraordinary that this doubtful Fund should so contribute, and it was high time to inquire, when the House were employed in contributing a fixed and certain sum for the Household Establishment. The next sum was that distributed in Pensions, which amounted to 74,000*l.* for persons of distinction here. To this there was all manner of objection, as it constituted a Pension List out of sight. According to the provisions of Mr. Burke's Act, no person was allowed a higher pension than 1200*l.*, but here the Paymaster of the Forces (he hoped the Hon. Gentleman would not be angry) had 1800*l.* Lady Chatham 1300*l.* Lady Grenville 1800*l.* with several others; in short, all the fashionable persons in London might be thus comfortably provided for—(*A laugh.*)—But if he wanted to shew the extent of the abuses of this Fund, he would state it thus:—the poor people of Barbadoes had the honour of supporting the late Duke of Gloucester, to whom 9000*l.* a-year was paid from this Fund; but it was discovered that it was unequal to it, and his Royal Highness was transferred to the public for the last 20 years of his life; but as soon as he was disposed of in this manner, the Crown had received successively the sums of 32,000*l.*, 27,000*l.*, 40,000*l.* twice, and 35,000*l.*, making in all 170,000*l.* from this inadequate Fund, which, as Parliament was told, was insufficient to pay 9000*l.* to the Duke of Gloucester! Since that period there was also a further sum of 80,000*l.* from the same Fund. Looking then at the way in which it had been abused, and even supposing that it was not intended for colo-[illegible] (such as the building and repairs of forts, prisons, [illegible] as specified in the Act of the Colony) yet [illegible] the Constitution that it should be expend-[illegible] pensions and secret services, that it was [illegible]deration. The Hon. Gentleman concluded [illegible] Select Committee by appointed for the [illegible]g into the 4½ per Cent. Barbadoes and Leeward Island Duties, their amount and application, from the accession of his Majesty to the present time, distinguishing each year, and that they report the same to the House, with their opinion thereupon."

On the question being put,

Mr. LONG contended that the Fund was certainly at the disposal of the Crown. It was now, he said, become the fashion to refer every subject to a Committee,—the Civil List last night had been referred to a Committee; but he thought that *delicacy*, in the present instance, should prevent any inquiry into the manner in which his Majesty had disposed of this Fund, and he, therefore, would oppose the motion.

Mr. ROSE and Mr. PERCEVAL were of the same opinion; and the motion, though opposed by Mr. P. MOORE, Mr. WHITBREAD, and Lord FOLKESTONE, was negatived by a majority of 31.—Adjourned.

Wednesday, Feb. 12.

MARINE CORPS.

Mr. HUTCHINSON called the attention of the House to the situation of the Royal Marine corps. His present motion should be for papers, on which he might perhaps move an address to the Prince Regent, praying his Royal Highness to take the state of this corps into consideration. If the Right Hon. Gentleman at the head of the Admiralty would signify any disposition in the Government to give to this meritorious corps the redress they conceived themselves entitled to, he should gladly withdraw his motion. The circumstances of the marine corps were, as he believed, but little known, although their merits were beyond all question. What he begged leave to suggest, was, that they ought to be put on an equal footing, both as to emolument and rank, with the other branches of the service. The Marines were one-fourth of our naval force, and amounted to 35,000 men. The merits of this corps were equal to those of any other description of our force, and yet it was their peculiar misfortune to be considered inferior to the rest. The highest offices in the corps were filled, not by marine officers, but by officers of the navy. There was a General of Marines, a Lieutenant-General, a Major-General, and Colonels, all officers of the navy having other emoluments; whereas the highest situation an officer in the Marines could arrive at was inferior both in rank and emolument to those offices thus held by officers of the navy. There were four divisions of the Marine Force stationed at Portsmouth, Plymouth, Woolwich, and Chatham. The situation of Commandant of one of those divisions was entirely beneath that of the offices which he had before mentioned as having been held by navy officers. The promotion also went on so slow in the Marines, that it was 14 years before a subaltern arrived to the rank of Captain, and 30 years before he came to be a Field-Officer. It must be a mortifying thing to marine officers to see Admirals and Generals who entered the service long after them. If their situation was compared with that of the navy, it was much inferior, as they never could rise so high as naval officers. It was the same if compared with the line and the artillery; and upon garrison duty, an old marine officer might see himself commanded by a junior officer of militia. They never were placed upon the Staff; neither had the serjeant of marines the same allowance at Greenwich, that the serjeant of the line had at Chelsea. As to the private in the army, they were allowed, in computing their pensions, three years' service for every two years spent in the East or West Indies. This was not the case with the Marines. His great object was, that a corps equal in merit to any other should be equally treated, both as to rank and emolument. He concluded by moving for a copy of the Memorial presented to the Admiralty in 1810, by the Field Officers of the Marines, as well as the copy of a letter from Colonel Trench, to the First Lord of the Admiralty, upon this subject.

Mr. YORKE perfectly agreed with every thing that had been said about the merits of the corps; but as they were well known, he did not think it necessary to say much upon that point. The House were always slow in interfering with matters of pure military regulation; and unless they were convinced that the Executive had neglected its duty, they seldom or never

interfered. Now, what could be a matter of purely military detail, more than the rank which marine officers should have upon garrison duty? It must be recollected, that there was no complaint of any of the old regulations for the marine corps having been departed from, but that it was merely a wish of the Honourable Gentleman to substitute some others in their place. The reason why they had not the same rank in garrisons, was, that they were seldom or never called to do garrison duty. If they were called upon to do garrison duty with other corps, there was no doubt but that their officers would take rank according to the date of their commissions; but the fact was, that while they were on shore, all that was required of them was to remain orderly in their barracks, and therefore no question of rank arose. Out of the whole number of 35,000 marines, 25,000 were generally on board ships, where, from the very nature of the service, they must necessarily be under the command of the Captain of the ship. It would be recollected, however, that no officer higher than a Captain of marines could be called upon to serve on board a ship; and therefore when they arrived at the rank of Field-Officers, they had little or no duties to do, and they lived in a sort of retirement from the service. From the difference of the services they were called upon to perform, there was little analogy between the situation of officers of marines, and officers either in the line or the artillery. Keeping these general points in view, he would also observe, that the system now acted upon in the marine service, was that which had always subsisted. The active services of the marines as a body were always performed under the orders and superintendance of the sea Captain, or Admiral of the fleet. Even when the marines were occasionally landed in boats, for the purpose of attacking any place, they were under the command of an officer of the navy. This, of course, prevented them from having the same number of Field-Officers as were possessed by other corps; but if any occasion occurred when they were landed, and acted in battalion, then they acted under their own Field-Officers. There was at present a battalion of marines in actual service in Portugal, which was commanded by its own officers, and had proved extremely useful and effective. The Hon. Gentleman had founded his complaint chiefly on the small number of Staff Officers which belonged to the marine corps, and the inferior amount of their emoluments, when compared with those of other branches of service. Now, he would beg to observe, that the whole subject was taken into the consideration of Government only three years ago, and a very material addition was made to the emolument enjoyed by the superior officers of the marines. He was quite persuaded that the greater part of these officers were at present extremely satisfied with their situation; and as this improvement of their general situation and prospects had taken place so lately as 1809, he was convinced that there was no necessity for again recommending that subject to the attention of the Prince Regent. The Hon. Gentleman had complained of the slowness of promotion in the marine service, and that so very few officers reached the rank of Commandants. But similar complaints were equally applicable to promotions in the army; for how few Colonels in the army were there, comparatively speaking, who could be promoted to the command of regiments? Besides, during war, the proportion of marines on shore was extremely small, when compared with those who were on ship-board, and these entitled to all the advantages which belonged to the naval service, such as the chance of prize-money, &c.; advantages which inferior officers in the army were not possessed of. Were there even, therefore, some inequality in the pay of these respective branches of service, he saw no reason for chaffering, as the Hon. Gentleman had done, about a few shillings or pounds, more or less. (*Hear, hear!*) But the divisions of marines which were on shore, and which never amounted to more than 10,000 men out of their whole number, were undoubtedly sufficiently supplied with Staff Officers. Every division, consisting of 1000 men, had generally a Colonel Commandant, and four Majors; so that in this respect he really never heard a matter of complaint which was less entitled to the consideration of the House. The service of the artillery, with which that of the marines had been compared, without meaning at all to depreciate the latter, was one of more responsibility, and of a more arduous nature and which necessarily required a greater number of officers of rank; the great body of marines being, as he had so often stated, under the orders and directions of their naval Captains. As to the slowness of promotion on the part of marine officers, he believed that if the Hon. Gentleman compared it with what necessarily took place in the promotion of inferior officers in the army and navy, there would appear little or no ground of complaint. With regard to Greenwich Hospital, the marines contributed the same as the seamen to that establishment, and enjoyed from it the same advantages, with this single exception, that the superior officers of that national establishment were generally chosen from the navy; but this in itself was such a trifle, (there being only four or five situations of the description alluded to) as hardly to deserve the attention of the House. The Hon. Gentleman had also complained, that marines, serving in the East and West Indies, were not entitled to the advantage possessed by soldiers serving in those parts, of having every two years counted for three, in the computation of their pensions. But surely the Hon. Gentleman must be aware, that the marines remaining generally on board their ships, where they were much less exposed to the dangers of the climate, and which was always, in those latitudes, the most healthy situation in which they could be placed. On board ship their officers were besides entitled to the same allowances as naval officers, and came in for their due proportion of prize-money. Upon the whole, he believed that the marine service was one of the most eligible of the various branches of our military establishments: and he thought the House would agree with him in thinking, that no sufficient ground had been laid for the Address which was now proposed.

The motion was negatived without a division.

TRANSPORTATION TO NEW SOUTH WALES.

Sir S. ROMILLY rose to move for the appointment of a Committee to enquire into the effects of the system of transporting Convicts to New South Wales. He would beg leave to observe, that as connected with the subject of transportation, two important objects of inquiry would naturally come under the attention of the Committee; one was, as to the effects which transportation produced on the convicts; and the other, as to the nature of the punishment which was thus inflicted upon them, and their situation when removed to that colony. At a period when the Legislature were almost every Session under the necessity of passing Acts of Parliament, denouncing the punishment of transportation on offenders, it became more than ever necessary to inquire into its effects. He did not mean to throw any reflection on the mode of distributing justice, but he wished merely that the public should have some information by which it would be judged whether transportation was a punishment advantageous to society. All the information that ever was laid before the House, with respect to New South Wales, was a correspondence between Governor Phillips and the Secretary of State in 1792, although this mode of punishment was tried at first as a mere experiment, and differed in every sense from transportation to the colonies of America, which was in use previously to 1778. He then moved, that a Committee be appointed to inquire into the manner of executing sentences of transportation to New South Wales, and into the effects resulting therefrom.

The motion was put and carried, and the Committee nominated.—Adjourned.

Thursday, Feb. 12.

AMERICA.

Mr. WHITBREAD called the attention of the House to our relations with the United States of America, which were of such a description as threatened a war with that Power,—a proceeding which he thought pregnant with evil. America, he said, was popular with him. It had been driven before by our impolicy into a war with this country; and the issue of that contest had been such as it ought to have been. He had no jealousy whatever of the greatness and prosperity of America. The greater America was, the better for this country,—the

more flourishing would be the state of Great Britain; and from that flourishing condition the prosperity of America would derive a fresh impulse and additional vigour. He had seen nothing of injustice or partiality in the conduct of America.—(*Hear, hear, from Mr. Perceval and others.*) Nothing of the kind in the conduct of the American Government to this country. He knew how the trumpet had been at first sounded, that America had been acting in secret hostility to Great Britain; and how that had been followed up; but the truth was, that America, being the only neutral nation, had naturally taken advantage of that situation, and acted as Great Britain, or any other Power would have done, if placed in similar circumstances. America had been ill-treated both by France and England; both had exacted from her what it was perfectly impossible for her to perform. She had borne with this as long as she reasonably could, without even resorting to defensive measures. At last, she was compelled to lay on the Embargo, and fortify herself by the Non-intercourse Law. To neither of the Belligerents had she acted with injustice, though ill-used by both; but France had wisdom enough to be the first to retrace her steps, and adopt a conciliatory tone. The recent accounts from America rendered the production of the information which he called for a matter of still greater importance. The admission of our manufactures would probably give umbrage to France; and Great Britain ought to be prepared to take advantage of this favourable occurrence. Whether he succeeded or failed in his motion, he would at least have the satisfaction of having done his duty. He concluded by moving, "that an Address be presented to the Prince Regent, for copies of the correspondence between our Government and America, through the medium of the respective Ministers, with the documents referred to in that correspondence, from the 1st of January, 1810, up to the latest period."

Mr. PERCEVAL said, that the conduct of England had been dictated by a spirit of conciliation throughout the whole correspondence with America. He supposed that the Hon. Gentleman did not mean to deny the principle,—that we had a right of retaliation against France, for all those evils which her injustice to neutral nations and neutral commerce should bring upon this country. At least, this principle was not first promulgated by those who are now his Majesty's Ministers: it had been distinctly declared before they came into office, by the Gentlemen who now sat on the other side. The first of those measures was the blockade of 1806, which was imposed by Mr. Fox, and which was at that time loudly complained of both by France and America. The authors of the Order in Council for the blockade of 1807 only acted upon the principle which had been strongly, and, as they conceived, properly laid down by their predecessors, and followed, in this respect, their example. He thought the Gentlemen who supported the original measure in 1806, ought not now to be the persons to raise their voice against the justice and the policy of the measures since pursued. He should be at all times ready to maintain, that they were consistent with justice and policy, and with the relation which States bear to each other, in the extraordinary circumstances in which the world is placed at the present moment. When the Hon. Gentleman talked of mercantile distress, and attributed it all to the Orders in Council, he must positively deny that it was occasioned by those measures: on the contrary, it was owing to them that the distress was not much greater. It was to what was called the Continental System that this mercantile distress was owing; and this system had been much controlled and checked in its progress by the Orders in Council. Mr. Perceval then alluded to an observation which had been made by Mr. Curwen, and remarked that he (Mr. C.) had more than once expressed a hope that his Majesty's present Ministers were not likely long to hold that situation. (*Hear, hear!*) Whatever golden dreams might be indulged on this subject, he must say, that as far as he knew any thing about the matter, he rather imagined that the Hon. Gentleman would find, that his consolatory prospects would not open upon him quite so pleasantly as he imagined. (*Hear, hear!*) But if the system which the Hon. Gentleman so strongly recommended were to be a system dictated to the Government of the country to pursue, then, indeed, he should feel happy to quit his present situation, and not to form a part of any Administration which should pursue a course so hostile, as he conceived, to the true interests of the country.

Mr. HERBERT thought that what was called our maritime right, was rather of a doubtful nature.

Mr. BARING was confident that war with America was altogether certain, and he could not but augur much mischief from it. It was as certain as any thing could be, that the French Decrees were rescinded, as far at least as concerned America, which was all the Americans had to do with. Since the French had declared that their Decrees had been abrogated, not one instance had occurred to the contrary. But the system of the Orders in Council was in itself a manifest evil.

After some further debate, in which Mr. HUTCHINSON declared that he placed no reliance on the plunderers of Copenhagen, or those who had raised the hellish cry of "No Popery,"—the motion was negatived by a majority of 113.—Adjourned.

Friday, Feb. 14.

NOTTINGHAM RIOTS.

Mr. RYDER obtained leave to bring in a Bill making the breaking of frames, as now practised in Nottinghamshire, a capital offence. He said that upwards of 1000 frames had already been destroyed, by which from 6 to 10,000*l.* had been lost, and the evil still continued, though Government had taken and were taking the greatest pains to put down the rioters.—Some conversation ensued, in which Mr. WHITBREAD and others deprecated the infliction of the penalty of death for such offences; but the Bill was read and ordered to be printed.—Adjourned.

TUESDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

BANKRUPTS.

R. Wicksteed, Brook's-place, Kennington, Surrey, woollen-draper.
W. Humphries, Cheltenham, Gloucester, carpenter.
J. and J. Howgate, Wakefield, Yorkshire, manufacturers.
W. C. Gilson, Plymouth Dock, Devon, money-scrivener.
J. Butterfield, Dover, Kent, cabinet-maker.
T. Neave, Gutter-lane, Cheapside, London, silk-weaver.
T. Spring, Charles-street, City-road, Middlesex, merchant.
J. Wilson, Horton, Ribblesdale, Yorkshire, innkeeper.
J. Green, Huddersfield, Yorkshire, corn-merchant.
J. Fox, Bridlington, Yorkshire, linen-draper.
J. Slaymaker, Red cross-street, London, tallow-chandler.
T. Buckham, Newcastle-upon-Tyne, butcher.
A. Gray, Ashby-street, Clerkenwell, dealer.
J. Ward, Woolwich, Kent, coal-merchant.
J. Samuel, Argood, Monmouthshire, shopkeeper.

SATURDAY'S LONDON GAZETTE.

BANKRUPTCY SUPERSEDED.

J. Clark, Shoe-lane, London, builder.

BANKRUPTS.

J. Arden, Blackmore-street, Clare-market, grocer.
A. Whitehead, Halifax, cotton-spinner.
A. Eyre, Thurlstone, York, oil-merchant.
C. Deale, Newgate-street, London, taylor.
J. Griffith, Oxford, haberdasher.
I. Carter, Portpool-lane, Middlesex, farrier.
R. Piercy, Hornsey-raw, Islington, stock-broker.
J. Stedwell, Richmond, Surrey, butcher.
D. Dougal, Lower-terrace, Islington, dealer.
J. Plowman, Kensington, Middlesex, builder.
J. Newton, Tooley-street, Southwark, cooper.
R. and E. Hodgkinson, Curkney, Nottingham, dealers.
E. Foster, Oxford-street, Middlesex, ironmonger.
R. Hull & G. Harper, Worcester, shoe-makers.
T. Smith, Little St. Martin's-lane, Long-acre, undertaker.
W. Taylor, Hereford, skinner.

J. and W. Hulston, Birmingham, gun-barrel makers.
E. S. and T. Neale, Cheapside, shawl-manufacturers.
T. Beaumont, Stockwell, Surrey, cow-keeper.
M. and F. Court, and Co. Savage-gardens, merchants.
R. Noble, Chipping Ongar, Essex, bricklayer.
J. Knill, Fleet-street, silk-mercer.
W. Dean, Salisbury, Wiltshire, linen-draper.
J. Hudson, Camberwell, Surrey, miller.
J. Emberley, Ship-Inn-yard, Southwark, corn-dealer.
W. Heath, Hanley, Staffordshire, ironfounder.
G. Abbotts, Laches, Staffordshire, corn-dealer.

PRICE OF STOCKS ON SATURDAY.

3 per Cent. Cons. . . 62½—Omnium.....1 dis.

The communication of MEDICUS, for which the Editor returns his thanks, is left for him at the Office.

Several letters on the FINE ARTS, and numerous other communications, are delayed for want of room.

G. W. is informed that the 3d No. of the Work he alludes to has been published some months; and that the 4th is forthcoming.

THE EXAMINER.

LONDON, FEBRUARY 16.

THE triumphant insinuation of Mr. PERCEVAL, on which some remarks have been made at the beginning of this paper, continues to lengthen the faces of the GRENVITES and GRENVILLITES, notwithstanding their endeavours to put a good countenance on the matter. The *Chronicle* of yesterday would impress upon us it's conviction that the effusion was only a trick; "for we *understand*," it informs us, "that before Mr. PERCEVAL left the House, he said that he had been misconceived by Mr. WHITBREAD; for he certainly did not mean to give out that he had any foundation for confidence in the personal enjoyment of the PRINCE's favour,—but only that the prospect of his opponents might not be so bright as they seemed to indulge in their golden dreams."—There is an evident and an awkward anxiety to make the most of this unauthenticated piece of information; but it is possible, as a matter of decorum, that Mr. PERCEVAL may have said something to qualify the confidence of his insinuation, without at all lessening or meaning to lessen it's general import: he might even intend to disclaim an exclusive possession of the PRINCE's confidence, or the entire maintenance of the present Ministry, without meaning to give up his hold upon the best part of the one or his security for the largest part of the other; for what was it, after all, that he really said to Mr. CURWEN? not that the hopes of Opposition were entirely destitute of foundation,—not that a portion of their friends might not be somehow or other brought into place,—but that he was afraid the prospect would not open upon them in so consolatory a manner *as they anticipated*. Neither is the main bearing of the words at all shaken by the fresh communication, which, the *Morning Chronicle* assures us, was made on Friday last from the PRINCE REGENT to Lords GREY and GRENVILLE; for when we consider the former communications to those Noblemen, the time of day, the good spirits of the Minister, and the simple fact, that his Royal Highness has not *at once* called his old friends into power, there is no reason to conclude that it is any thing else but another fruitless attempt at coalition, and an additional proof,—if appearances did not amount to proof enough,—that his Royal Highness, owing to certain circumstances with which he is hampered, finds it out of his power, or at least thinks and is made to think it out of his power, to do any thing more. What must be worse than all to the feelings of Opposition,—or at least to this part of the Opposition,—is to observe the entire want of sympathy which the public evince in their disappointment. There is not indeed one person out of a thousand who does not think them rightly served for their courtliness, time-serving, and affected contempt of the public; and though it is truly lamentable to be reduced to the necessity of having either Pittites or Demi Pittites for our rulers, yet if the present state of things, as there is every reason to hope, induce the better part of the Foxites to coalesce cordially with the Reformists, there will at least be a sounder and more effectual opposition against corruption than has existed for years, and the people may be enabled to question the new evils that approach them with something like a voice of their own.

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Moniteurs and minor French Papers have been received to the 7th inst. inclusive: they are perfectly silent respecting the affairs of the Peninsula; but they announce the loss of another frigate, the Manilla, of 36 guns, Capt. SEYMOUR. All the crew, but 12 who perished in an explosion, were saved.

"AMSTERDAM, FEB. 2.—We have received *fresh* accounts relative to the running ashore of the English frigate which was lately lost on these coasts; she was called the Manilla. The whole of her crew are prisoners, and will to-morrow commence arriving by detachments in Amsterdam. As it was not possible to get the ship afloat, she was set on fire. All the world knows that in the moment of danger, English sailors have no other resource than that of flying to liquor which may be on board. At the instant the vessel was set on fire, the French detachment sent to execute this operation, found in the hold five sailors dead drunk. The Officers of this frigate declare, that she was lost in consequence of the orders she received to closely and unremittingly watch the Texel fleet, the sailing of which, it appears, is expected in England. Twelve men perished on board this frigate, in consequence of an explosion."—*Moniteur, Feb. 7.*

[The same Paper contains three letters from Admiral DE WINTER to the Minister of the Marine and Colonies, by which it appears, the Manilla was commanded by G. H. SEYMOUR, Esq. who, with the crew, consisting of from 170 to 180 men, has been saved.]

The Laurel frigate is lost:—having struck on a rock in Quiberon bay, she was obliged to be run on shore, in order to save the crew. Upwards of 70 of the men were captured by the French, the rest escaped in the boats.—And the Spanish brig Diligente, which has arrived at Plymouth from Corunna, brings a report, that private letters had been received at Corunna from St. Sebastian's, in which it was stated, that, in a gale, the Surveillante frigate had been forced into that port, when the batteries

commenced firing upon her, which was returned by the frigate with great spirit, but at length she was compelled to surrender.

The Spanish Papers say, that Lord WELLINGTON is advancing towards Salamanca. There will doubtless be still some scenes of blood between the French and English in the Peninsula; but since the annihilation of BLAKE'S army, many even of the most sanguine consider the salvation of Spain as hopeless.

Is it not singular that no colours or eagles should be taken at Ciudad Rodrigo? Did MARMONT withdraw them from the apprehension of the loss of the place, when he moved to sustain a superior object?—Does it not seem as if the French had left Ciudad Rodrigo as a trap, or, what in the French military phrase is called a "*Trou de rât?*" Ciudad Rodrigo is distant 320 miles, and Badajos is only 120 from Lisbon. The route to the former is very bad and mountainous—to the latter very fine and level. Can Ciudad Rodrigo be maintained without an army in the neighbourhood? and if an army continues there, is it not probable that the enemy will profit by its distance from the Tagus, and operate from Badajos?—MARMONT and DORSENNE are at least equal to the Allied Army. SOULT then is at liberty to act without the fear of impediment from any detachment that Lord WELLINGTON could make.

Letters from the North state, that the French have taken forcible possession of Swedish Pomerania; and there is a report that the Swedes have declared war against France. This is not at all likely.

The REGENT is now said to have the gout in his hand. That he is not in a good state of health is notorious.

"There can be no doubt of a communication having been made in the course of yesterday from the PRINCE REGENT to Lord GREY and Lord GRENVILLE; and when we reflect on the terms of his Royal Highness's letter to Mr. PERCEVAL last year, when he signified to that gentleman his determination to make no change at that time in his Father's Government, we are persuaded that this communication related to the formation of a new Administration. Of the terms, or even of the substance of such a communication, we have no means of informing the public, nor shall we offer any conjectures as to its probable results; but of this we are well assured, that no consideration will induce either of these Statesmen to accept of office, without a thorough understanding, that when in power they will be permitted to follow the same line of general policy which they have recommended when in Opposition, and more especially, unless they are authorized to carry into effect those measures of conciliation with regard to Ireland, which they have so often declared to be, in their opinion, essential to the peace and security of the Empire."—*Morning Chronicle, Feb.* 15.

Yesterday in the Court of King's Bench the proceedings were interesting only to the parties concerned, with the exception of a case, BRAY v. HILL. This was an action to recover 22*l.* and upwards for rent. It was proved in evidence that a distress warrant had been levied against the plaintiff, and he had tendered the sum due in *Bank Notes* and some silver; but the defendant refused to accept the said payment, on the ground that it was not a legal tender, and added, that he liked hard cash.—Mr. PARK was about to address the Bench on a point of law, but Lord ELLENBOROUGH interposed, and left the *law* and *fact* to the Jury, who decided by their verdict for the plaintiff that *Bank Notes were not a legal tender for rent.*

Mr. WALSH'S Case was again argued before the Judges on Friday. The decision will not be given till the next Old Bailey Sessions.

It appears, from official documents, that the pittance supplied by the country to the Widows of Officers who have spent their lives in its defence, is taxed to the amount of 5*l.* per cent. to uphold an Office which has been declared unnecessary. The possessor of it, Colonel M'MAHON, absorbs from this very fund more than is afforded out of it for all the Widows of all the Majors whose pensions are charged upon it; more than is afforded to half the widows of all the Lieutenant-Colonels; more than double what is given to support sixty-two widows of Regimental Chaplains, Hospital-Mates, Veterinary-Surgeons, Commissaries of Musters, and Commissaries of Stores!!

The Grand Jury has very properly thrown out five Bills of Indictment, brought by the Society for the Suppression of Vice against butchers, for selling meat on the Sunday morning. It appeared that the poor people who were thus provided with a Sunday dinner, *worked* till near mid-night on the Saturday, and that they were served before ten o'clock in the forenoon; also, that the meat left unsold on the Saturday would not in many cases kept sweet till Monday.

The importation of foreign corn into England in the year 1810, amounted to 2,221,951 quarters. If that immense quantity be turned into money it will amount to more than *eight millions sterling*, the greater part of which was thus carried in specie out of England!

In *The Gazette* of February 1, a reward of 100 guineas is offered for the apprehension of the men who *robbed* and *beat* J. Garrett, with a free pardon to an accomplice, &c. A like reward of 100 guineas for the discovery of the villains who *set fire to* the shops, &c. of Messrs. Oats, with pardon to an accomplice, &c. And for the apprehension of the *murderers* of Margaret Huxtable (a murder attended with the most cruel circumstances) *only* pardon to an accomplice, &c.—the Secretary considering that, as this is an *inferior* crime to the other two, and the neighbourhood where the murder took place having offered 50 guineas reward, (which is announced by way of postscript) there was surely no occasion for Government to give any thing!!!

Letters received from Manchester state, that several of the most respectable manufacturers had been recently threatened with the conflagration of their premises. The villains, it is added, had even the audacity to send a circular letter to several houses which they had marked out for destruction. The first house on their list was that of Messrs. HAIGH, MARSHAL, and Co.; and, on Sunday night, these Gentlemen's premises were set on fire, and entirely destroyed. Every precaution has been taken to prevent farther mischief: and a strict enquiry is making to trace out the incendiaries.

"It is reported, that the eldest son of ——, has been drawn in by some most artful influence, to read, in a Popish Church at Palermo, his recantation from the errors of the Church of England! Anxious as we are to see the principle of religious freedom universally recognized, we cannot suppress our astonishment that any well-educated youth should be brought, by any influenza, to embrace the tenets of the Roman Catholic sect."—*Morning Chronicle.*

Friday morning, about six o'clock, a most disgraceful scene took place in Smithfield Market:—A man sold his wife in a halter, for five shillings and half a pint of gin, to one of the Yeomen of the Guard to his Majesty. A practice so disgraceful to the country ought, surely, to be put a stop to.

The reader will peruse the Case of Mr. Povah, in the Law Report, with surprize, if with no other feeling. It seems that the Bishops of England are as infallible as the Popes of Rome; and that without entering into examination, and *proving* that just exceptions have been taken, they can prevent a man from entering on a public duty, to which he has been called by a majority of his countrymen. Is this the boasted liberality of a Church, which accuses those who differ with it of *intolerance*?

Mr. Reignagle, sen. has been elected Royal Academician, in the room of the late Sir Francis Bourgeois.

All the bad Painters in the Royal Academy (nine-tenths of that Institution) are in hostile array against an *English Student*, merely for having satisfactorily proved their imbecility. The *Examiner*, too, is honoured by their abuse; and Mr. ———, a leading member, has, it seems, threatened that he "will never read that there Paper any more." —Dreadful vengeance!!

THE KING'S ILLNESS.

MEDICAL BULLETIN.

"*Windsor Castle, Feb.* 8.

"His Majesty appears to be nearly in the same state in which he was the last week."

MR. DRAKARD.

The total amount of the Subscription is nearly Five Hundred and Twenty-six Pounds, a sum which will be deemed of very great magnitude, when it is considered that it has almost entirely proceeded from the limited district of country, which constitutes the proper field of our circulation. Several handsome subscriptions have, indeed, been received from London, and other distant towns; but the amount of these is but trifling when compared with the total subscribed. Lincolnshire, and its neighbouring counties, then, have reared this monument, commemorative and explanatory of public sentiment—for that is the light in which our Subscription Book must be viewed.—The individual has been supported, doubtless, but the cause of independence has been supported in a ten-fold degree. And where has it been thus supported? In the heart of a country, depressed and retarded in sentiment by an overbearing and powerful combination. We shall not hastily forget the mob of Gentry, and Clergy, assembled in a box near the Judge, in the Court at Lincoln, to hear Mr. Drakard's trial. They could scarcely sit still, or keep silence, during the proceedings, so great was their anxiety for a verdict of guilty—and when the Jury pronounced their decision to that effect, they evinced the most tumultuous manifestations of gladness. One Reverend Dignitary we could not but particularly notice;—his countenance is at all times calculated to reflect radiance on his cloth,—but on this occasion it was animated with a more than usual suffusion—his cheeks swelled beyond their natural amplitude—his eyes twinkled from the bottom of those deep caverns of fat, in which they are immerged—his capacious chest rose and fell, with the breathings of rapture—and his whole appearance represented a most curious portrait of a self-denying, humble, and charitable follower of the meek and lowly One. These gentlemen had their wish. Mr. Drakard was convicted, and by a most severe sentence has been doomed to a long imprisonment:—but let them turn their attention to another verdict given by the public voice—to the public approbation of our endeavours to free the British army from a vile disgrace—to the fame which the *Stamford News* has through this means acquired—to the effect which our strictures, assisted by the writings and eloquence of others, have had, in raising general indignation against the practice of indiscriminate flogging—and to the Subscription, by which Mr. Drakard's expenses are repaid;—having well considered these several circumstances, let them say whether the Proprietor of this Paper has not, as a tradesman as well as an honest man, cause to exult in the prosecution against him? His interests have been prompted, and his feelings have been gratified by it. He has, through it, been enabled to exhibit, in the face of his enemies, an unequivocal display of the good will which he has acquired, and of the footing which his Paper has gained in the country. A Subscription of Five Hundred and Twenty-six Pounds will be accepted by all, as a sure proof of the extensive circulation of the *Stamford News*. This is, indeed, considering the matter in the lowest point of view,—but for that very reason, our statement is more likely to strike the minds against which we are addressing it. The sort of people who were assembled in the box near the Judge at Lincoln, would listen to us with very incredulous ears, if we were to tell them, that the consciousness of having done good by our strictures fully compensated us for the suffering by which they have been followed. The rosy-gilled Dignitary of the Church, judging by his own feelings, would greet this declaration with a laugh of contempt: but when he learns that Mr. Drakard has been benefitted in pounds, shillings, and pence, by the prosecution,—that his Paper has been established by it,—and that it has advanced his interests in several ways,—the Reverend Gentleman will be of opinion, that his triumph on hearing the verdict of the Jury was uncalled for,—and will, no doubt, mourn over this fresh example of meat being derived from the eater,—and from the strong, sweetness.—The thanks of Mr. Drakard are thus paid to his friends, who have come forward to support him through a prosecution, instituted not against *Crime*, but against *Truth*. Indeed, it is not now pretended that a writing to be libellous must be vicious—it is sufficient, that it be calculated "to hurt the feelings of individuals." While this maxim is acted upon by our Courts, and while there are bad men and bad practices in the world,—who need blush at going to prison for libel?—*Stamford News*.

FINE ARTS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

Mr. Examiner,—I think it is but just to state, that from the first moment of the transaction alluded to, with regard to Wilkie's Picture, to the present hour, he never agreed with me in the motives I always attributed to the Royal Academy. It is altogether fair that I should say this, as, from our known friendship, it is by no means improbable, however unjust, a suspicion may arise that he was accessory to the wickedness and the treason of daring to impute dishonor to Royal Academicians.

An English Student.

BRITISH INSTITUTION.

A mind vigilantly and accurately observant of the familiar incidents of human life, distinguishes the Pictures of Mr. Collins. These incidents he embodies with much firmness of pencil, and with a highly-brilliant and harmonious effect of light, shade, and colour. Such is 59, *The Weary Trumpeter, or Juvenile Mischief*; and also 71, *May-day*, which displays the grotesque circumstance of bedizened Chimney-sweepers dancing and begging at an alehouse. To this main action of the piece are appended others, that naturally arise from or are in unison with it. The sooty son of vernal festivity dances to the enlivening beat of a drum, round which a pleased auditory are assembled, while the genial effect of a May-day sun is conspicuous in the amorous address of an old Carpenter to a Shrimp Girl, whom he is soliciting to kiss. A mirthfully mischievous boy, taking advantage of his intent wooing, is preparing a hearty laugh at the Carpenter's expence, by the removal of his stool. A more novel, but equally natural circumstance, is the shrinking of an infant from the approach of a Sweep. These and other objects are painted with due attention to the detail of finishing, &c. There is a masterly breadth and richness of tone throughout the piece. The luminous effect of sunshine, and the clearness of the atmosphere, on a fine May-day, are admirably expressed, in the glittering back-ground, the lucid, silvery sky, and the general tone of the picture. The talent displayed by Mr. Collins in these beautiful pieces, renders the admirer of early genius anxious for its still higher advancement. It is with this feeling that I recommend to his closer attention and aim, the rich and vigorous touch of Wouvermans, Teniers, and others of the Dutch school, most admirable for energetic and luxurious pencilling.

The Connoisseur, M. W. Sharp.—In the paintings of Genteel Familiar Life, the incidents can rarely be so interesting as those in Vulgar Life, because the humour, and most of the feelings depicted, can be described with but a comparatively faint character, if the requisite refinement is preserved. Mr. Sharp has chosen a subject that admits of a more than ordinary share of strong character, in union with the graces of Polished Life. The countenance of the keen judge and warm admirer of Art glows and his entire frame appears to thrill with delight, in the earnest examination of a Bust which the Owner is describing to the Connoisseur with much energy, while not a word of his language is lost to a deaf Gentleman, who attentively listens through the friendly medium of a trumpet. Polished deportment and elegant modern costume are very tastefully displayed, in a group of Fashionables assembled round the Connoisseur. An Hussar Officer, in full uniform, is judiciously introduced, as his glittering dress, and especially the easy fall of his mantle, varies the monotony of the common habiliment. This picture is a proof how successfully the modern dresses may be adapted to the class of Fashionable Life subjects. The Architectural Gallery is beautifully and scientifically painted. Among other appropriate objects is introduced a fine Statue of Minerva belonging to Mr. T. Hope's Gallery of Sculptures. The force of the chiaroscuro, and the richness of the colour, produce a most vivacious and suitable effect. There is a quaintness in the figure of the Connoisseur, but it is a quaintness common to persons who are enthusiastically attached to a particular object. It is therefore natural, as it is characteristically descriptive of his riding his hobby. Mr. Sharp's humour is of a nature perfectly consistent with the refined walk of Familiar Life Painting, in which he has so far and so successfully advanced. He never deviates into farce, or oversteps discretion, though he treads on the verge of character, as seen in accomplished life.

The highly descriptive heroic ballad of *Chevy Chace* has supplied Mr. Bird with a subject (No. 121), that has considerably enhanced his reputation in the superior vigour and in the versatility with which it displays his powers. He has selected that passage in the Song which so feelingly describes the mournful visit to the field of battle of the wives of the combatants who were slain:—

Next day did many widows come their husbands to bewail,
They wash'd their wounds in briny tears, but all would not prevail;
Their bodies bath'd in purple blood, they bore with them away,
They kiss'd them dead a thousand times when they were clad in clay.

Estimable as Mr. Bird's talent is in Comic Painting, the exquisite touches of nature in which the piece abounds, incline one to think that his main talent lies in Tragedy. I should speak more decisively on this point, if it was not for the absence of a material constituent in this branch of Art, that of refinement. Mr. Bird's figures are mostly of a low stamp. They are deficient in that elevated character which belongs to the heroic poem of *Chevy Chace*. The female most conspicuous for rank, as well as for the centrical situation and superior light in which she is placed, looks more like a menial than the wife of an Earl. Independently of this, the picture is rich in invention and every requisite of expression. In each group the expression of sorrow is not only forcible, but altogether various, and in parts highly original. Such is the boy's lifting up the casque of a dead man, from which a woman averts her view, being shocked at discovering that it is her husband; as is also the simple, natural, and affecting circumstance of a youth gracefully leaning on a shield, with his finger a little inserted into his mouth, while sorrowfully contemplating his slain Lord. Such, too, is the placing a corse in the laps of the widow and a friend of the slain, the widow resting her head on her husband's body in the silent absorption of grief, while the man regretfully gazes on his departed companion. The mournful procession of warriors carrying off the body of Douglas, is a passage that forms an exception to the want of dignity in the Picture. The slow solemnity of the train, the bending, dejected attitudes of some, and the vehemently expressed grief of others, with the shadowy gloom in which he has involved the groupe, finish the deeply impressive climax of grief, and, together with the appropriate solemnity of the colouring, light, and shade, exhibit a Picture of most powerful feeling and of poetic character. It strikes on the tenderest chords of the heart, and as Sir Philip Sidney said, that he "never heard the old song of Percy and Douglas but he found his heart more moved than with a trumpet," so we may truly say, that we cannot view this Picture without feeling the mind involved in a deep and melancholy musing, similar to what is felt in listening to the accordant and pathetic strains of music.

Mr. Mills has bought Mr. Collins's picture of the *Weary Trumpeter*. The Marquis of Stafford has purchased Mr. Bird's *Chevy Chace*, for 300 guineas.

56. *Macbeth, the instant before he murdered Duncan.* B. R. Haydon.—Were this picture from the hand of a veteran in painting, I should regard that hand as having been industriously and judiciously employed; but as the

work of a young man, who styles himself a Student, I consider it as an extraordinary specimen of time most actively and wisely appropriated, of mind most aptly and vigorously formed for the pursuit of art. The Institution has here ample cause for satisfaction at the result of its judicious and generous patronage. It is beginning to experience the gratification of viewing the attainment of its object—that of the prosperous establishment of legitimate art.—Mr. Haydon has here unequivocally displayed the advantageous results of the Student's early and earnest aims at the higher excellencies of painting. Before he reached the lofty station on which he now stands, he must have made many unsuccessful efforts; but by learning at each attempt where his deficiencies lay, he has been enabled to remedy defects and approach excellence. He has still, however, defects to remedy; and where is the painter who has not? He has chiefly to restrain an over ardent feeling, which moves his pencil a degree beyond the limits of truth. Thus the muscles in the lower limbs of Macbeth are strained to an action not justified by the occasion. His body is indeed under the violent impulse of a murderer's feelings; but there is a temperance to be acquired even in the "very tempest of passion." The same censure is applicable to an intenseness of light, approximating more to daylight than to that solemn time, when "o'er the half world nature seems dead;" and especially to that awful period, when "wither'd Murder towards his design moves like a ghost."—Thus also, though the veins of persons in the deep sleep of intoxication and exhaustion may be more than ordinarily visible, yet those in the neck and hand of one of the sleeping Chamberlains are rather unpleasantly obtrusive. The "swinish sleep" of this man and his fellow attendant are otherwise admirably depicted. So is the profound and "innocent sleep" of Duncan, who forms a beautiful antithesis to the violently agitated Macbeth and his savage partner, Lady Macbeth, who, in the fever of guilty greatness, and anxious for the quick perpetration of the murder, is eagerly listening on the staircase.—With the exceptions just mentioned, the power of painting has nearly reached its summit of expression in these two characters, as well as in the figure of Duncan. The forcible action of Macbeth, especially the strong clenching of the daggers, most powerfully pourtrays that induced state of murderous resolve in which the compunctions of conscience have at length surrendered to the suggestions of a profligate ambition.—Mr. Haydon has here well discriminated the character of Macbeth as an unpractised murderer. The sudden turn of his head, and the mixed character in his countenance of fierceness and perturbation, exhibit the daring of a man whose ambition, and not thirst for blood, has prompted him to a first deed of death. His entire frame is sympathetically affected by these feelings; and we see before us the sublime portrait of a great mind degraded by a vile ambition to the horrid act of murder. There is a noble, antique elevation of style in the figures, especially in the head, neck, and trunk of Macbeth, at the same time that there is a decisive and judicious reference to Nature; so that the whole is devoid of the least affectation of manner, while (with the stated exceptions) truth, and elevated energy, and originality, are the presiding principles. It is a characteristic of strong and industrious intellect, while engaged on the leading parts of a grand object, to be regardful, at the same time, of those minuter points which assist when combined to advance and perfect the performance. Mr. Haydon has been so duly mindful of this, that he has defined every part with a rich, decisive, careful, but free and masterly marking. He has not, like the lazy and imbecile imitators of Reynolds, been careless and clumsy in finishing, or indistinct in drawing, from a fear of shewing an ignorance of it. In fine, the powers of this Artist are a high ornament and honour to the British Institution and the Nation.

R. H.

THE NIGHTLY WATCH.

Mr. Examiner,—The horrors produced by the recent outrages in the metropolis have, in some degree, subsided; but as the recurrence of such proceedings is still the dread of the many, I beg to draw the attention of your readers to the consideration of a plan, which if it be not original in design, is calculated to inspire confidence in the great body of the people.

I propose, Sir, to confide to the House of Commons, who have at all times been so watchful of the public purse, the protection of our persons and *remaining* properties; recommending for that purpose, the appointment of a Corps of honourable Members, as a Nightly Watch. Now, I am well aware, Mr. Examiner, you will, on the first view of this measure, urge as an insuperable objection, what you will term—the unnatural union of the Legislative and Executive Powers; and the objection may be incontrovertible. But if this is the only one you are prepared to make, I feel confident that the patriotism (if I may so express myself) of the plan, will alone be sufficient to procure the support of the Honourable House. It will be incomparably more safe, economical, and efficient, than the present system, and it is both practicable and expedient. Indeed, I expect the most beneficial results from its adoption. My landlady will sleep better; and I do hope the recital of sleepless hours, telling the clock, dread of thieves, alarms of fire, and the agreeable &c.'s of the breakfast-table, may give way to something a little more enlivening. But to explain my plan, which is at present very imperfect: the Nightly Watch to consist of Members volunteering their services for the protection of the peace; the particular services to be regulated by the peculiar *genius* of the Members. In conformity, therefore, with this arrangement, I beg leave to suggest, as a service singularly fitted for the *Right Hon. C. Yorke*, that he be transferred from the Board of Admiralty to a watch-box in Shadwell; for I remember, when a boy, that, in his speeches to his constituents, wherein danger appeared his delight, he discoursed most heroically of wading through *blood* to defend his King and Country; and knowing, as we do, in how many places he has since served both, we may confidently rely on his future devotion. Of this description of patriots the House will supply a company sufficient for the entire guard of the eastern part of the town. Then for the city. The upright Member, *Sir James*, who on a former occasion so ably defended the privileges of the city, would doubtless prove as zealous to protect her peace. Great and reciprocal advantages may be expected from his aldermanic compeers. After having been stewed up for hours at a grand feast, consider the refreshing influence of a long round of watch; and how the duty will counteract the deadly effects of the dinner. This duty done,—renovated in body and in mind,—they would, when at the House, incur no danger of a nap, induced by the united influence of the Callipash

and the Castlereagh; nor awake under the horrors of the nightmare, which betray them into votes so much at variance with reason. The Saints would cheerfully lend their aid in a cause, which, secondarily, may improve our morals. They might be placed near their brother Dunstan, and awe, by their presence, into a little decency, the obstreperous spirits of Fleet-street.

At the west, which may be called the Home Department, a larger company and a more frequent change may be necessary. Some have already too much to attend to. However, to make it as easy as possible, I propose that the men of fashion,—the bloods of Bond-street,—should take the early watch, and dine after. Their presence will not be required at the House, except on a division; and those who speak early in debate may slip from their laurels and succeed the loungers. After these may follow the *Lethbridges*, whom Sir Francis has armed *à la porcupine*; and the lethargic, whom honest Jack may have roused by his terrific jollity: and as the lamps grow dim, *Old Sherry*, lighted up with claret, may sally forth, and put to flight the sons of darkness and disorder, by the illumination of his own lantern.

Here, Sir, it was my intention to leave the subject for the present; but in order to quiet the apprehensions of a loyal friend, who is anxious to know how the Government (which he sometimes confounds with the Constitution) is to proceed, when its supporters have a different and distinct duty, and being also desirous to anticipate such objections as may arise from a fear, that the majorities, which reflect so much honour on the nation, would hereby be reduced,—I beg to suggest, that the vigilance of Sir Francis Burdett and the courage of his Noble Colleague, may be found serviceable; that the watchful Whitbread, and the humane Sir Samuel, may be expected to give their ready assistance. And though I cannot avail myself of the disinterested and patriotic propensities of the Premier, who, it is impossible can be in more than five places at once,—relieved from the embarrassments which the presence of the above worthies often occasion, he may oblige me by introducing a Bill, to which he may add, as a *Ryder*, that the Secretary for the Home Department be instructed to know something of his duty.—Your's, respectfully, W.

ATTACKS UPON FOREIGNERS.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE EXAMINER.

Monday, 20th January, 1812.

Sir,—I saw in the *Examiner* of yesterday a paper signed a *Englishman*, containing some observations on the Letter in vindication of Foreigners, which appeared in the same Journal on the 5th inst.: it shall be immediately answered. I asserted in my Letter, that those unfortunate strangers, who to save their *lives* were forced to abandon their *fortunes* and take refuge in England, live with admirable resignation, either by the means of honest industry, or on a *scanty* allowance. This writer pretends that the allowance is *not* scanty; and to prove it, he gives the amount of what is paid by Government to the Clergy and Nobility of France, living under its protection. Though this sum in the *aggregate* may appear considerable, yet, *individually*, it is small: the allowance for a Bishop, a General, or a Nobleman of the highest rank, is about 200*l.* a year. I say this is a *scanty* allowance, and that it does honour to those persons who, used to the luxuries of a large fortune, live contented on so small a sum. When James II. was driven by the Revolution to seek an asylum at the Court of Louis XIV. he was *received* and *treated* like a King; and what the French Government paid to him *alone*, was equal to what is now given to the *whole* of the French residing in England. Upon the score, therefore, of *generosity*, there is not *much* room to *boast*. Suppose that a similar calamity should happen in this country,—that a cruel revolution should drive the English Nobility and Clergy out of this country,—don't you think that a Bishop of Durham, a Marquis of Wellesley, a Lord Liverpool, &c. &c. would find it hard to live upon 200*l.* a year? Should we not admire them, if they bore with fortitude their sad change of situation? And why should we be so ungenerous as to refuse the same justice to those persons who do actually bear with fortitude their fallen state, and live content with a scanty allowance? I trust my position is fully proved.

I now come to the other point, in which this writer (who, to do him justice, speaks in general with temper and moderation) finds fault. This was my assertion, that the Foreigners now in England are the most unprotected body of men in the universe: I think I shall also fully prove it correct. Even before this severe law, Foreigners in England were in a worse situation than in any other country in Europe: for *every*where else they can purchase *lands*, *houses*, and, in short, possess and inherit any sort of *real* property; and in some countries are not incapable of holding public offices: * while in England, Foreigners cannot purchase lands or houses, nor inherit or transmit any sort of real property: in fact, they are upon the same condition as Jews; and, when naturalized, they are incapable, in consequence of a clause in the Act of Settlement, of holding any place of trust.† Even before the Alien Bill, the situation of Foreigners was *uncomfortable* and *degrading* enough; but now, it is become *wretched*,—because it is *wretched* to be left at the mercy of a *Minister*,—to be liable to be *transported*, *imprisoned*, or *detained*, by the mere act of his will and pleasure. This Englishman allows it to be somewhat hard, to be imprisoned without accusation or defence; for he knows it is a hardship to which *he* is *subject* himself, whenever the *Habeas Corpus* Act is suspended; but he seems to make very light of the powers of detention and transportation, given by this *ingenious contrivance of oppression*,—the production, I believe, of the present Lord Eldon, Lord Chancellor of England, then Sir John Scott, Attorney-General. Now I beg leave to inform *an Englishman*, that this power of imprisonment, the only one to which he seems to have some objection, is the *least* mischievous of all, because seldom resorted to; and *this* for a *very good* reason:—when a person is a prisoner, he remains in England; he may have some friends; his case may be investigated, and the Ministers, if wrong,—though in no danger of being punished, because it is idle

* In Monarchial States, the Sovereign had the power to employ talents and virtues wherever he could find them, and some of the ablest Generals in Austria and in France have been foreigners. In Republics, of course, it was different: no stranger could have any public office till he became a citizen of the state; but could be naturalized, and when naturalized, he enjoyed all the rights of the other citizens.

† Before this Act, naturalization gave all the rights of other citizens: many naturalized subjects were employed in important places; nor is there, I believe, an example of any one having betrayed his trust.

to talk in the present times of the responsibility of the Ministers,—may incur public censure. In fact, we shall find that very few Foreigners have been imprisoned under this act; but hundreds and hundreds have been deported.—When a Minister, for good or *bad* motives, for a public object or *private revenge*, wants to get rid of a Foreigner, the easiest method he finds is to get him out of the *way*, then he is heard no more of. What a number of individuals, what a number of families, have been destroyed in this manner! A man who has been, perhaps, twenty or thirty years in this country, is, without ever knowing of being accused, torn from his family, hurried on board a crazy ship at the peril of his life,* and landed, penniless, on an inhospitable coast! *These* are the cruel consequences of arbitrary power, when improperly placed. The writer of this Letter is more friendly, in a certain degree, to such power, than what people generally are in this country, when placed in proper hands: *these* proper hands are those of Magistrates, *venerable* for their age, *venerable* for their experience, *venerable* for their virtues,—who have *gradually* risen by their merit to the first offices in the state,—chosen for a short and fixed period by the free voices of an august Senate,—removeable only by the votes of the same Senate; as were the Ephors in Sparta, the Suffets in Carthage, the Censors in Rome, and the Inquisitors of State in Venice: a certain degree of arbitrary power placed in *such* hands, is a *blessing* to the country,—the *terror* of the *wicked*,—the *comfort* of the *good*; but to place *any* sort of arbitrary power in the hands of persons *not* venerable either for *age*, *experience*, or *virtue*,—who have *not* regularly risen, but have *jumped* up, perhaps, at once from a clerkship, or from a chamber in the Temple, to the highest offices in the state,—who are not in place for a *short* and *fixed* period, but for an *unlimited* time,—not chosen or *removeable* by the votes of an august Senate,—is the height of imprudence and rashness. There are certainly *some* instances where extraordinary powers may be safely trusted, even to Monarchial Ministers;—to a Fox, to a Spencer, a degree of arbitrary power could without danger be confided, as the benevolence of their hearts and soundness of their understandings secured us from any tyrannical or intemperate act; but for one or two such men, there are ten or twenty, to whom *no* arbitrary power should be given,—I do not say, over men, but not *even* over horses or *dogs*. The People of England are therefore perfectly right in refusing such a power to the Ministers of the Crown. How ungenerous is it to deliver up eighty or a hundred thousand inhabitants of this country to such hard fate! and even more than ungenerous, to fall, in the brutal manner in which it has been done by the venal Prints, on these poor helpless strangers.—I hope I have fully proved my proposition, "that the Foreigners now resident in England are the most unprotected body of men in the universe."

Sunday, January 26.

I saw in this day's *Examiner* another Letter, signed

* It is not to be supposed that *these* Ministers will be very anxious about the life of an unhappy stranger, the object of their vengeance, when they appear to be so *little* careful of that of their own countrymen. The late fatal loss of *two thousand* British seamen in the Baltic and North Seas,—a loss greater than that sustained at the battle of Trafalgar,—is said to be entirely imputable to negligence; as it is well known to every person not totally ignorant of sea matters, that to let large men of war navigate in those seas in the tempestuous month of December, is exposing them to almost certain destruction. Such dangers ought not to be incurred, but for objects of the most pressing necessity. What could be the objects now, which could detain so late the English fleet in the Baltic? It could be nothing else but to protect the running of some goods on shore on the Swedish and Russian coasts. Is the safety of so many valuable ships, and, what is more valuable, the lives of *so many brave* men, to be risked for such a paltry object? But we are not to wonder at this fatal error, which has cost us so dear, when we know that the present Minister of the Marine was appointed to this most important Department, *not* for his knowledge of *naval* affairs, but as a *reward* for the motion he made in the House of Commons, for excluding strangers from the Gallery during the Inquiry about the famous Walcheren Expedition. I beg leave to be understood, I mean no disparagement to Mr. Yorke, whom I believe to be a very worthy character and a very sensible gentleman; and I am confident he will have himself the candour to acknowledge, "I do not know much of naval affairs;" but he will say in his defence, "My colleague (the War Minister), Lord Liverpool, is likewise no great proficient in the art of war."—Agreed. Hence, Sir, the *great* successes in the war; where the English army is reduced to an army of observation, and cannot interrupt the French in the conquest of Spain, which, to the sorrow of every good man, they have nearly accomplished, and nothing can prevent but a prodigy of valour on the part of the Spanish nation, whose heroic constancy in this dreadful contest is above all praise. If Spain should fall, can Lord Wellington's army save Portugal? I fear, no such a hope can be reasonably entertained. I beg leave, without disparagement to Lord Liverpool, to make a comparison with the present Minister of War in France. This is General Clarke, an experienced officer, who has served in many campaigns, and is still more distinguished by his profound knowledge in the theoretical part of the military science. General Clarke's predecessors in the same office, were Berthier, Carnot, and Bernadotte! Can we wonder, then, at the constant success of the French army? "They manage these things better in France," says Sterne.—General Clarke, I believe, is an Irishman by birth: it appears, then, the French have no objection to employ foreigners. What a row there would be in England, if a foreigner was made Secretary at War! I believe it was also a foreigner who conducted the glorious defence of St. John d'Acre; and I believe it was not a foreigner who made the unsuccessful attack at Badajos. How stupid, then, are these national prejudices! Talents and virtues should be employed wherever they are met with. It is necessary to here enter into an explanation:—While I think there are *cases* where *some* foreigners might be employed to advantage in *any* country, I do not pretend to give any opinion on the propriety of keeping a foreign army: it is totally a different question, and a serious one it is. It is generally allowed, I believe, that the Germans, and other foreign troops, in English pay, deserve every praise for their orderly conduct at home, and bravery in the field; but certainly a Member of Parliament has a full right to deliver openly his sentiments on this most important question. And I beg leave to observe to the German Officer, who wrote in the newspaper, that the expression of Sir Francis Burdett, of "*mercenary*," which gave him so much offence, as if applied exclusively to his own body, belongs to all soldiers and to all men who serve for *pay*. *Mercenary* comes from the Latin word MERCES,-ēdis;—*hire*, or *wages*. In *this* sense of the word, every person who serves for hire may be called mercenary,—even the highest Minister of the highest Kings and Emperors may be called so: in *this* sense of the word the three Secretaries of State, the Chancellor of the Exchequer, and even the Lord High Chancellor of England (I am sure I mean no disrespect to the respectable persons filling such important situations), may be said to be *mercenaries*. But the Censors in Rome, and the Inquisitors of State in Venice, as they received no pay or hire, and whose only reward was the dignity they enjoyed in the state and the satisfaction of serving their country,—*they never* could be called mercenaries.

an Englishman:—a few words, I think, will be sufficient to answer it.

This Gentleman is misinformed when he says, Foreigners do not pay the Income Tax: they *do pay it* when in England, and the tax-gatherers have the *conscience* to ask it for what they possess abroad.

This writer *conceives* the disqualification to serve in the Militia as a favour. *I* consider it as another *humiliation*,—as the *finishing* to make them *ciphers* in society; and to be a *cipher*, I consider it *no privilege*.—*Such*, then, is the condition of Foreigners now in England: they bear *all* the burthens of the English subjects, and possess *none* of their rights, but are *ciphers* in society; and to make it *complete*, they have no *protection* or *defence* against *transportation*, *detention*, or *imprisonment*. What a *comfortable* situation! QUEL SORT DIGNE D'ENVIE.

CITY.

On Tuesday a Court of Common Council was holden, for the purpose of taking into consideration the propriety of granting 500*l.* to the National Institution for the Instruction of the Children of the Poor according to the Principles of the Church of England.

Mr. DORNFORD did not think it would be at all important to inquire whether Dr. Bell or Mr. Lancaster were the inventors of the mode of instruction they had adopted, but in his opinion the former deserved the greater encouragement, inasmuch as by his plan the children were to be educated according to the tenets of the Established Church. He therefore proposed that the sum of 500*l.* be granted to Doctor Bell, for the purpose above stated.

Mr. Alderman GOODBEHERE argued, that inasmuch as the system of Dr. Bell was inconsistent with the liberal spirit of toleration which formed a principal ingredient in our Constitution, it would not become the Court to accede to the vote. The plea of poverty, on which the grant of Mr. Lancaster was made, could not be urged in favour of Dr. Bell, since a list of names had been ostentatiously published, with subscriptions to the extent of nearly 40,000*l.* annexed to them. The advantage to be derived was not calculated to be of general benefit to all distinctions of religion, but was confined to one particular sect; and it was therefore required by the present motion, that the funds of the City should be devoted to create disunion and animosity between the various denominations, instead of being employed to promote order and harmony.

Mr. QUIN, although he was educated under the Establishment, still felt that the blessings of education should not be confined to those only who believed in its doctrines. He entered into a comparison of the two systems in three respects:—first, as to the total effect produced; secondly, as to the facility of producing that effect; thirdly, as to the expenditure necessary to attain the object: drawing conclusions decidedly in favour of that of Mr. Lancaster, who taught reading, writing, and arithmetic, besides instruction in the Bible, to 1000 children, for 142*l.*, while Dr. Bell expended for the same purpose no less than 900*l.* He warmly resisted the doctrine upheld by some of the supporters of the Church, that ignorance was the mother of piety, and expressed his astonishment that this opinion should be maintained by those who knew that the Reformation and our present state of civil and religious liberty were owing to the clouds of Catholicism being dissipated by the light of the sun of reason breaking in upon the benighted world. He then minutely examined the proposals published by Dr. Bell, contending that they were inconsistent with the principles he professed, and contended that the term "national" was improperly applied to this institution, inasmuch as only half the population of the empire would be instructed according to the plan now endeavoured to be established. The late actions of some of the most opulent members of the establishment, had shewn that it was time for the Dissenters to wake from their slumber of supposed security, to resist an enemy who would take advantage of their confidence.

Mr. S. DIXON asserted, that there never was a more tender or affectionate mother to all her children than the Church of England, and after what he had said, he could not help suspecting Mr. Quin's assertion, that he was educated under the Establishment. He denied that Lancaster was able to give the children entrusted to him any religious instruction. It might be true that the Bible might be put into the hands of the children by Mr. Lancaster; but he contended that it would be useless without directions. As Dr. Bell's system was better calculated to maintain the Constitution in Church and State, he thought it more deserving countenance than that of Mr. Lancaster.

Mr. BLUNDELL, Mr. BROWN, and Mr. PIERSALL followed on the contary side, contending that Dr. Bell did not want assistance—that his object was not so beneficial, or his motives as pure, as those Mr. Lancaster professed.

Mr. JACKS admitted that the system of Mr. Lancaster was good, and he should be happy to see it carried into effect among the Jews, but particularly among the Roman Catholics of Ireland, whom it would benefit more than emancipation. As Dr. Bell, however, professedly taught the doctrines of the Establishment, and as those tenets were held by Christians in the three first centuries, he thought it most deserving encouragement.

Mr. DAVIES opposed the motion, warning the friends of the Church lest their inconsiderate zeal should injure the cause they espoused: he admitted the value of its doctrines, and lamented that they were so little practised. If Dr. Bell's scheme were not rather calculated to defeat than to advance his own design, he should have given his assent to the proposition.

Mr. FAVEL congratulated the country on the general admission that the education of the lower classes was a matter of importance to the welfare of the state, and teaching them to read and write was, as it were, placing in their hands the key of knowledge. He noticed a school established in Ireland, principally of Catholics, on the principles of Mr. Lancaster, from which 200 children had been withdrawn, in consequence of an attempt to introduce the Church Catechism; and afterwards adverted to the sufferings of the Martyrs in Smithfield in the reign of Queen Mary, and introduced some proceedings against the Quaker ancestors of Mr. Waithman in 1652; deducing from these facts the injury that arose from intolerance and bigotry. He conceded that the execution of Dr. Bell's plan would be attended with much advantage, but he saw no sufficient reason for giving him 500*l.*

Mr. Alderman BIRCH appealed to the Court as a corporate body, whether the term "National" had not been properly applied to this Society. The Constitution was composed of Church and State, and the Corporation of the City of London existed only on an oath that it would support them. The religion established was undeniably the national faith, and an institution to educate the poor on those principles was fitly called a National Institution. The real question, according to the opponents of the motion was, whether the city would consent to support every institution but one founded on the doctrines of the Church of England; and he put it to the Court whether such a determination was constitutional, or even decent?

Mr. WHEELER moved an amendment, that the sum of 300*l.* be substituted for 500*l.*

Mr. WAITHMAN said, that neither Dr. Bell, nor all those prelates and dignitaries who support him, saw the necessity of exerting themselves for the education of the poor, until Mr. Lancaster had been most eminently successful; and then the alarm was spread that the Church was in danger, and this National Society sprung up to educate the poor in the principles of the Church of England. He thought he saw the principle of persecution now raising its head, and that it ought to be resisted. The alarm of the Church being in danger, was something like a former invasion. If they could once succeed in beating down Joseph Lancaster, he did know what would become of the funds subscribed; but he believed that the country would hear very little more about the "National Society." The Churchmen never saw any danger in universal ignorance, but they were quite alarmed at the idea of any sort of education, except in

their own religious doctrines. As to the number of Dissenters in this country, he believed that it principally proceeded from the carelessness of the established Clergy. Who would run the chance of an ague in a cold church (he would not use an epithet that had once been applied to it) merely to be set asleep by the drowsy discourse of a preacher without energy or talents? He thought that preachers of energy and talents were generally excluded from the regular churches, and therefore people went elsewhere to hear better preaching. If it was the careless and slovenly conduct of the Ministers of the Church of England that made the number of dissenters, the Church had no right to attack men for dissenting.

Alderman SMITH and SCHOLEY supported the motion shortly, and Mr. GRIFFITHS spoke on the contrary side, and was succeeded by Alderman WOOD. Mr. DORNFORD having shortly replied,—the question was put, and the LORD MAYOR declared that the motion was *carried*. A division was however demanded, when the numbers were—For the motion, 47—Against it, 53.—It was accordingly *lost*.

LAW.

COURT OF KING's BENCH.

Friday, Feb. 7.

THE KING *v.* THE BISHOP OF LONDON AND ARCHBISHOP OF CANTERBURY.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL shewed cause against the rule obtained in this case, calling on the Archbishop of Canterbury and Bishop of London, or either of them, to shew cause why they, or either of them, should not admit into their presence the Rev. Dr. Richard Povah, hear him read the Thirty-nine Articles, make declaration of his unfeigned assent thereto, and perform all things necessary to entitle him to be licensed as Lecturer to St. Bartholomew, near the Exchange; and having done all this, to shew cause why he should not licence the said Richard Povah as Lecturer of that Church.

On behalf of the Archbishop, it was contended that it lay with him alone to licence or not to licence any Lectureship, and he was the only judge to decide upon the fitness of the candidate; and by the affidavit it appeared, that Dr. Povah had applied to the Bishop, who had refused to licence him.

On the other hand it was argued, that the Bishop was not the sole judge in matters of temporal concern, such as the right of presentations, and that Dr. Povah had never been heard by the Bishop; and in his defence, said that the Bishop had listened to vague charges against him:—First, that he had preached against the necessity of infant baptism; that Dr. Povah had offered, in refutation of this charge, the manuscript sermon supposed to contain the obnoxious doctrines. Next, that he had read the Absolution, not being in Priests' Orders; this he also refuted; and, lastly, that he had not produced the necessary testimonials; to obviate this, he produced many testimonials; and it was insisted that the *Mandamus* ought to go, and the Bishop might make a distinct return of the ground of objection, in order that it might be questioned in a Temporal Court.

On Saturday week, Lord ELLENBOROUGH delivered the opinion of the Court. The affidavit of the Bishop bore, "that he does conscientiously disapprove of Dr. Povah, after the most solemn and deliberate consideration and enquiry; that he considers him as an unfit man; and that he is not influenced in rejecting him by any personal motive, malice, or any other cause, but by conscientious scruples alone."—If the Court had granted the *Mandamus*, and the Bishop had made to it a return of this kind, would it not have been satisfactory? Unless they were prepared to say, that the right of approval lay with them and not with the Bishop, the Rule must be discharged.

Tuesday, Feb. 11.

STATE OF THE PAVEMENTS.

The Grand Jury came into Court, and stated, that they had called the High Constables before them, and directed them to make presentments in New Tourel hundred, of the bad state of the Pavements in London, and in their presentment to state, whether the same was by default of the Commissioners of the Pavements, or occasioned by any of the Water Companies. That the Constables had made their returns accordingly, which they had put into the hands of the Officer of the Crown Office, and they humbly hoped the Court would direct such measures as would secure the safety of his Majesty's subjects, now greatly endangered by the bad state of the pavement in every part of the metropolis.

SESSIONS-HOUSE, HORSEMONGER-LANE.

HIGH TREASON.—On Monday, *Wm. Cundell*, alias *Connell*, was put to the bar, charged with high treason, he having been found in the French service, on the capture of the Isle of France.—It appeared from the evidence, that having been taken prisoner by the French in the Laurel, he had entered into their service; and when at Port Louis (according to the evidence of Mr. Brereton, Midshipman), the prisoner stood sentry over the English Officers, and took various opportunities of turning the English into ridicule. At this time the prisoner was dressed in the French uniform,—red, faced with green,—with a national cockade in his hat.—After Mr. BROUGHAM had spoken in behalf of the prisoner, he was called upon for his defence, when he urged that he had suffered extreme hardships whilst a prisoner, till he entered into the enemy's service; he afterwards attempted to escape, but having failed, he was imprisoned 22 days, and kept upon bread and water, and threatened to be put to death. He was afterwards kept in prison till the arrival of the British force, to whom he immediately and gladly surrendered himself.—The CHIEF BARON then summed up, observing that the overt acts had all been proved, and the Jury would decide whether the defence was a good one. Nothing but the fear of the loss of life could be a justification.—The Jury would recollect, that 140 men, who had remained in prison, had borne their hardships till they were released by their countrymen.—The Jury retired for ten minutes, and then brought in a verdict of *guilty*, but recommended him to mercy, as he returned to his allegiance on the first opportunity.—The prisoner is about 30 years of age.

On Tuesday, *Cornelius Parker* was put to the bar, charged with a similar offence. It appeared that the prisoner had been taken by the French, and had voluntarily entered their service, saying to his fellow prisoners that "money and liberty were fine things."—Mr. Watson, the Master at Arms of the Magicienne, who had been also taken by the French, said that there was no such treatment as would have induced a man of common firmness to enter the enemy's service.—Mr. BROUGHAM urged some matters in favour of the prisoner, to which the ATTORNEY-GENERAL replied, and the Jury without hesitation found him *guilty*.

John Tweddell was put to the bar, and found *guilty* of the same crime, committed under similar circumstances.

On Wednesday, *Charles Bird* was put to the bar, charged with the same crime of having entered the French service in the Isle of France.—The prisoner denied that he had entered such service: he had only put on the French uniform in order to avoid detection, having escaped from prison.—The Jury, having been addressed by Mr. BROUGHAM and the ATTORNEY-GENERAL, after half an hour's deliberation, returned a verdict of *not guilty*.

John Quigley was next tried, on a like charge.—It appeared that the prisoner, on being upbraided for entering the enemy's service, expressed his sorrow for having so done, and even wept; but urged that he had been induced to take the step in the hope of getting a woman named Margaret Crome to live with him.—The Jury found the prisoner *guilty*, but strongly recommended him to mercy.

On Thursday, *John Smith* was put to the bar, charged with the like acts as the other prisoners; and a fifth overt act, namely, inciting and inviting others, British prisoners like himself, to enter the French service.

It was proved that when the Magicienne was run aground, and burnt to prevent her falling into possession of the enemy, the prisoner swore he would not go on board the French prison-ship, but went away with a French corporal. The prisoner

was seen at large in Port Louis, wearing the military uniform of a French soldier, working in the French-barrack, and he acknowledged receiving two dollars per day for his work. It was also proved that the prisoner said the British service was no better than slavery, but that he had always lived like a gentleman while he was in that of the French. The prisoner, in his defence, totally denied having been in the French military service, and said the uniform he wore was only a disguise to enable him to effect his escape.—Mr. BROUGHAM addressed the Jury at considerable length, and the ATTORNEY-GENERAL replied, when the Jury found the prisoner *Guilty*.

George Armstrong was next tried on a similar indictment.—He made a long defence; denied having ever done duty as a French soldier; but said he had worked as a shoemaker. Two witnesses were examined on his behalf, who admitted he had entered the French service, and worn the uniform. After a speech from Mr. BROUGHAM, and reply from the ATTORNEY-GENERAL, the Jury found the prisoner *Guilty*.

On Friday, *Samuel M'Farlane*, the next of the prisoners taken at the Island of France, was put to the bar. It appeared in evidence that the prisoner went out of the French prison at Port Louis, entered the French service, and wore the uniform of a French soldier; that he attempted to entice one John Curtis to follow his example—that he assisted in guarding his fellow countrymen, and that previous to his entering the French service, he expressed his determination so to do.

The Jury after a short absence, returned a verdict of *Guilty*; but recommended him to mercy on account of his not having been found in arms.

Joseph Teaster, alias *Tester*, was then put to the bar.—The indictment against him was similar to that against the last prisoner.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL.—"Gentlemen of the Jury, the object of these prosecutions is to shew that offenders, such as those whose fate has been decided, cannot escape the hands of justice; a fact which it is necessary should be publicly impressed on the minds of those engaged in the service of the country. Many more persons than those who have been brought to trial, were found acting in a similar manner. There were reasons, however, for selecting those men who have been tried, as well as those who remain to be tried. Their cases, however, could not be as accurately examined by those who had the opportunity of making the selection as by myself. I have had an opportunity from the closest and most minute attention, of investigating the particulars of every charge, and I think the ends of justice are answered, and that those who have been tried will furnish a sufficient example to deter others from the commission of a like offence. I would not have it understood that those who remain have been selected haphazard. No; the cases of these men have been looked into, and there are circumstances of alleviation in their conduct, which forms a very considerable shade of difference between their guilt and that of the men who have been convicted, and such as justified me in not bringing their delinquency before you. After what has passed, in ending the prosecutions here, I hope the prisoner at the bar will consider, and I hope his attorney will tell the other prisoners, who know well what they have done, and how deserving they are of punishment, that this course arises from the most humane motives."—[During this speech, the Attorney General was so much agitated, that he burst into tears.]

Mr. BROUGHAM bore testimony to the extreme humanity which had marked the conduct of the Attorney-General, as well as of Government, throughout the whole of these trials. For his own part, he had to express the strongest gratitude for the indulgence which had been shewn him as Counsel for the prisoners, and cordially hoped the ends of justice might be served by the effect of the proceedings already taken.

The prisoner at the bar, in consequence of there being no evidence, was then acquitted, as were the three remaining prisoners, *Francis Lahey*, alias *Le Hay*, *James Fibbs*, and *Noah Francis*.

The ATTORNEY-GENERAL desired they might understand they were acquitted, not from any difficulty to bring home their guilt, but from the clemency of the Crown, which, he hoped, would have a proper effect on their future conduct. They all expressed their thanks in becoming language, and retired.

The seven men who have been convicted, Wm. Cundell, *alias* Connell, Cornelius Parker, John Tweedie, *alias* Tweddel, John Quigley, John Smith, George Armstrong, and Samuel M'Farlane, were then brought to the bar.

Mr. KNAPP having read the conviction of each, he asked what they had to say why judgment of death should not be passed?

Cundell made no reply, but bowed respectfully to the Court.—Parker fell on his knees, but did not utter a syllable.—Tweedle also fell on his knees, and was silent.—Quigley expressed his sincere repentance for his past errors, and vowed, if he was permitted, that he would fight for his King and his Country as long as there was a throb in his heart, or a drop of blood in his body.—J. Smith, G. Armstrong, and S. M'Farlane, all fell on their knees, and begged for mercy.

The LORD CHIEF BARON then proceeded to pass sentence, after a suitable address—"That you, and each of you, be taken to the place from whence you came, and from thence be drawn on a hurdle to the place of execution, where you shall be hanged by the necks, but not till you are dead; that you be severally taken down, while yet alive, and your bowels taken out, and burnt before your faces; that your heads be then cut off, and your bodies cut in four quarters, to be at the King's disposal."

The prisoners where then, after crying for mercy, re-conducted to their cells.

ACCIDENTS, OFFENCES, &c.

Mr. G. Ponsonby met with a severe accident on Thursday evening, in crossing a street; the pole of a carriage struck his side so severely as to fracture a rib.

On Thursday morning, about four o'clock, as Mr. John Follett, of the Temple, accompanied by a friend at whose house he had been spending the evening, was returning from Blackfriar's-road, Surrey, owing to the darkness of the night and the want of lamps in the lamp-irons (there being none on either side at that end of the Bridge), they mistook their way, and instead of going on the pavement leading to the Bridge, passed on and fell down the steps into the Thames, which was then very high. Mr. Follett, who was rather corpulent, was drowned. The other Gentleman with difficulty was saved. It is scarcely possible this accident could have happened, if lamps had been at the end of the Bridge and properly lighted. The Coroner's Jury sat on the body, and found a verdict of—*Accidental Death*.

Late on Tuesday night, or early on Wednesday morning, Mr. Marshall, one of the King's Yeomen of the Guards, put a period to his existence, by hanging himself in the King's Guard Chamber in St. James's Palace. It was his turn to do the duty of sleeping in the Guard Room on Tuesday night. He entered the Guard Room at nine o'clock on that duty. It is said that he has been for several years past in a low, desponding way, bordering on insanity, and that he discovered evident symptoms of insanity on Tuesday afternoon; so much so, that one of his brethren did some of his duty for him.

Friday the Recorder made a report of the following Convicts under sentence of death in Newgate, viz. *John Clayton*, *William Jenkins*, *John Butler*, and *John Catherwood*, for burglary, and *Robert Leach*, for house-breaking; when *Jenkins* and *Clayton* were ordered for execution on Wednesday next.

DEATHS.

At Bath, Vice-Admiral Lumsdaine.

On Friday week, in Bolton-street, the Right Hon. Dowager Lady Scarsdale, sister of the present Earl of Portmore, after a long illness, in the 79th year of her age.

At Rhaynder, Radnorshire, aged 100, Mrs. Price, mother of John Price, Esq. of Weymouth-house, Bath.

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